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Social Science Center

1 June 1973

Lt. General Vernon Walters  
Deputy Director  
Central Intelligence Agency  
Langley, Virginia

Dear General Walters:

In 1965-66 when I was a Fulbrighter in Brazil you wrote letters of introduction to the military ministries requesting that they allow me to use their archives for my Ph.D. research. That work--after return trips in 1969 and 1970--has resulted in a book, The Brazilian-American Alliance in World War II, 1937-1945, which Princeton University Press is publishing. It is now in galley proof and will appear in November. Two chapters, "The Cobra's Pipe" and "The Smoking Cobras," deal with the FEB and are based on the FEB archives in Rio and the army files in Washington.

In about two weeks I will return to Brazil to spend the summer doing research for another book on the history of the Brazilian army in the 20th century (from about 1903). Al Stepan, Ron Schneider, et al, have examined the "military in politics" theme but it seems to me that the historical dimension is missing. I wish to concentrate on the army's institutional and social history. My idea is to use the FEB experience as the focal point; the early chapters exploring the army's pre-war development, the middle chapters being a more thorough reconstruction of the FEB than was possible in the present book, and the latter chapters analyzing the post-war reforms resulting from lessons learned in Italy. This summer I will make a survey of data and plan on returning in AY74-75 for more in-depth research. On this trip I especially wish to concentrate on the educational system, in particular to use the archives at Agulhas Negras, and ECEME, and to do more work on the FEB.

The reason for appraising you of the project is to ask your assistance again in the form of letters of introduction. From the newspapers I would guess that this may be a poor time to bother you and if for any reason you cannot write I will understand. I will enclose a C.V. so that you can see what I have been doing since we last met. Possibly of particular interest is that from 1968-70 I was on active duty with the Social Sciences Department at West Point and for the past year have been on the consulting faculty at CGSC at Ft. Leavenworth.

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Letters to the commandants at AMAN and ECEME would probably be the most help; unhappily, I have not been able to find the names of the current incumbents. In addition, I would like to talk with the following: Golbery do Couto e Silva, Manuel Tomaz Castelo Branco, Aquinaldo José Sena Campos, Floriano de Lima Brayner, Francisco Ruas Santos, Umberto Peregrino, and Nelson Werneck Sodré. If you would be willing to suggest any others, I would appreciate it.

I will be bearing letters from West Point but, of course, the people there are not known in Brazil so letters from you would be extremely helpful.

Thanking you in advance for whatever you can do, I am

Sincerely yours,



Frank D. McCann, Jr.  
Assistant Professor of  
Latin American History \*

FDM:ap

(Associate as of Sep 8 '73)

P.S.

The book will be out  
in November.

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